SHRI SRIKANT JENA : The regularisation has to be there and the regularisation is possible by another law only.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (SILCHAR) : Last time when this was the view of all the parties, Government issued show cause notice and all that. Today, you have got the view of the House. Then why another meeting ? The Government can take appropriate action. I would request the hon. Minister not to confuse the issue any more.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : Sir, we wanted to differentiate the discretionary quota for petrol pumps and other things to that of accommodation. That was the feeling of the House. I would request the Government not to mix it up. The whole confusion was there because of that. These two categories should be separated. If somebody got a petrol pump... *(Interruptions)* we are not interested in that ...*(Interruptions)* That is what we are saying. We are saying that keep petrol pumps and other allocations out of this....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rajeshji, I think this can be discussed in the all party meeting; this is the way out.

Now, I think, our friends this side are feeling very agitated on a certain point, I give them two minutes to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAAF FATMI : Mr. Chairman Sir, thanks a lot for giving me an opportunity to express my views.

It is quite regrettable that some castes in India have been assigned a particular job for thousand of years and Nuskar is one such caste which makes their living by catching small birds but unfortunately it has been banned in and around Delhi. I would like to say that thousands of people belonging to this caste live in my constituency which are called Bahelia (birdman) in Hindi and in Urdu they are called Nuskar. One of our female Members Shrimati Bhagwati Devi who hails from a very poor family, is sitting on Dharna on the main gate of Parliament. We had told her that we shall put this issue before the Government. Thousands of people belonging to this caste live in this country. It is an issue of their livelihood. They have been sitting on Dharna at Jantar-Mantar for last one year.

Since they are poor lot, nobody is bothered about them. American and European culture is being brought into India in the name of environment and many other names.

MR. CHAIRMAN (COL. RAO RAM SINGH) : What is your suggestion ?

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAAF FATMI : My suggestion is that the law in this regard should be amended. Even the small love birds such as Parrots-Myna which are also pet birds and means of their livelihood have also been brought into the ambil of environment. Now these people can not catch or sell these birds as a result of which these people have been rendered jobless. I would request the Government to make suitable amendments in this law to enable them to continue this job for their livelihood.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : There was unanimous approach on this issue. Through you I appeal to all the Members of this House that the lakhs of people called Bahelias who are engaged in this job of catching the birds to make both ends meet, should be allowed to earn thier livelihood by making necessary amendment to the law. They are no-mads. It should be noted that their business depends on it. They are about 2-3 crores in the country. I would like to submit that environment is an essential thing. There are many birds and animals, which are our friends. We rear cows, goats, camels and oxen which are useful to our agriculture.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The views of other sections should also be heard in the House.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : The profession of various people is linked with it. The woman Member of Parliament sitting outside on dharna is a stone breaker and has been pursuing this issue for the last one year. Therefore the entire House should ponder over it.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (CHANDNI CHOWK-DELHI) : The decision, which has come today regarding the Delhi Rent Control Act is very important.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You want to speak on this issue. I am calling hon. Members to speak on a different subject. Shri Nitish Kumar.

SHRI DINSHA PATEL (KHEDA) : What is this going on, I have been raising this issue for the last three days but I am not given time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will get time now.

SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL (GODHRA): When will it be given ? Everyone is being called. If I am not allowed to raise in issue related to my Constituency I am going out. I have not been given time, while my name is there...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the way to talk.

SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Then what should I do ? If you say, I will go out....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called Nitish Kumarii. Nitishji, please speak.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (JHABUA) : If the leaders only speak on the issue, how others will speak. Please call others also.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : If all the friends express their

[Shri Rajesh Pilot]

views on one point only then zero hour will lose its importance.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I agree with you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Our colleagues have given their names. I think they should be called if they had given their names.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am calling them.

[Interruptions]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : That is okay. You may call them afterwords.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will call them.

[Interruptions]

MR. CHAIRMAN : But I will call them strictly according to the list given by the hon. Speaker. I will not call anybody who shouts like that.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAAF FATMI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Please get me the reply...*(Interruptions)*... Or ask him to give an assurance...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. There will be no reply.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (KANGRA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in Himachal Pradesh, we are having some floods. We are having incessant rains and the entire crop has been damaged. The fruits have been perished. There are no seed takers for potato. We are in a great agony and anguish. The whole of Himachal Pradesh is reeling under flood. Eighty-five per cent of the Himachal Pradesh region is dependent on horticulture and agriculture...*(Interruptions)* Please let me speak. Eighty-Five per cent of the agriculturists are in problem.

[Translation]

Let me speak. You are from my party...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

My request to the Central Government through you is that from the Ministry of Agriculture a team should be despatched immediately to survey the losses and immediate steps should be taken to give relief to the farmers. We are in a great trouble. We are a poor State and we are totally in anguish and in agony. Our farmers' backbone has been broken. Sir, we request you that immediate steps should be taken.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (JADAVPUR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I draw the attention of the agitated Members of the House to a different problem altogether? I want to draw the attention of the House to the handling of wheat vessels which carry imported wheat from Australia, Canada and other countries through different ports of India ....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order please.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : The Food Corporation of India had decided in a meeting in December 1996 the quantum of imported wheat to be handled by different ports of India. Calcutta and Haldia were allotted 60,000 metric tonnes of wheat. Calcutta Port has a Silo Plant which is unique in Asia. This plant makes unloading of bulk of wheat easy and smooth. The plant was kept in readiness in expectation.

But for some mysterious reason, not a single metric tonne of wheat arrived in Calcutta Port or in Haldia Port. The vessels were directed to other ports which are under private stevedores. This is the most vital point.

Will the Government clarify the position and explain why Calcutta and Haldia were deprived and the allocation order was not followed ?

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (AGRA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the time of speaking on the confidence Motion the Prime Minister, Shri Inder Kumar Gujral, said that both potable water and environment would his first priority. Construction of a barrage on Yamuna in Agra was approved both by the Centre and the State Governments. The Hon. Governor during the President's Rule laid its foundation stone as well but now it is being said that the Central Government has not given its approaval to the barrage till date. The reason being given by the Central Government is that it does not know about its estimated cost and how to manage the funds to be spent on it. But the planning Commission has made allocations for this and the mission, management board which has been formed at the behest of Planning Commission has also made provisions. Some objections are being raised from the point of view of environment. A ridiculous situation has been created. During the President's Rule, the Governor laid its foundation stone on behalf of the President and now the Central Government is not giving permission. The people are being made the scapgoat on very filmsy grounds. Gokul Barrage is being constructed. It's water would be stored in the Yamuna Barrage at Agra. Crores of rupees have been spent on Gokul Barrage and now it will go waste. Therefore, my submission through you is that the Yamuna barrage which is being constructed in Agra should be approved at the earliest. The Hon. Prime Minister is not present here, otherwise I would have urged him but now I would like to urge the Government that a Committee